

My body of work explores ideas of breast cancer as I decided to honour my mother who has survived it and show her experience through my art pieces, which created a very unique and personal exhibition. Each piece focuses on symbolism and more specifically on an aspect related to cancer, such as diagnosis, hospital interiors, body changes, survival, cancer cells and death. I have mostly concentrated on stylised and simplified images through a variety of mediums of paint, collage, print and ceramics.

My initial piece in that direction was *Survivor*, its creation helped me understand in which direction exactly I wanted my work to go, which is creating more figurative work based on the message. I am hoping that with my pieces, the audience will be able to understand and empathize the stages that a person with cancer experiences.

During the creation of *Hospital hallway* I discovered the work of a pop artist, Patrick Caulfield. His work portrays familiar and stylised subjects using flat colours and clear black outlines, which then inspired the rest of my work. During the creation of *Hospital hallway* I started using the colour pink as it represents breast cancer awareness, with a simplified design, yet with a deep meaning. Throughout the creation of my pieces I worked with a limited colour range. Several pieces are large scale representing the magnitude of the experience of cancer, this was inspired by "*The Amazon*" which is a large sculpture created by Prune Nourry.

My exhibition is in a linear shape with a long alcove, the audience can enter from the right seeing *Hospital hallway* first, the use of perspective in the painting also leads the viewer to the main section of my painting, the other large scale piece in my exhibition was placed centrally with the other pieces around. I decided to add an extra black mount to my print to balance the black details in other pieces. I placed my sculpture on a plinth in the corner creating a more three-dimensional aspect to my display. At the end on my display I put *Survivor* against the white wall where it created a stronger impact on the viewer.